UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,386	04/18/2001	Susumu Honma	109296	7176

25944 7590 04/07/2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER	
EHICHIOYA, FRED I	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2162	

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/836,386	HONMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fred I. Ehichioya	2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09 February 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 - 16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 - 16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: RCE filed February 9, 2006 to the original application filed April 18, 2001.

2. Claims 1 – 16 are pending in this Office Action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 - 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 13 and 15 recite the limitations "a storage unit that stores the text file" in claim 13 and "storing the text file" in claim 15. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 - 12, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,815,704 issued to Shigeyoshi Shimotsuji et al (hereafter "Shimotsuji") in view of U. S. Patent 6,381,592 issued to Stephen Michael Reuning (hereinafter "Reuning") and further in view of USPN 5,799,212 issued to Takashi Ohmori (hereinafter "Ohmori").

Regarding claim 1, Shimotsuji discloses a data input form retrieving system, comprising:

data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

A keyword add unit that adds a keyword inputted by a user to each of the plural data input forms (column 1, lines 34 – 39);

an extracting conditions input computer unit that inputs a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms (see column 2, lines 15 – 17);

a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data input form (see column 2, lines 2 – 5).

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach text file or program area as claimed.

However, Reuning teaches text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form (see column 5, lines 43 – 49 and column 7, lines 10 – 17);

A storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 7, lines 10 – 13);

retrieving the character string contained in the text file from the storage unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the extracting condition input computer unit (see column 7, lines 10 – 17).

Ohmori teaches a recording medium including a program area (Abstract and column 8, lines 47 – 57: Examiner interprets "recordable area" as "program area").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's system enable users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which contain operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all email addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning (column 3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or observe the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing data contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that may exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Ohmori's teaching of "program area" would have allowed Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a recording medium, recording apparatus and reproducing apparatus which expands a conventional MO disc audio recording and reproducing system so that the MO disc system can also be used to record and/or reproduce non-audio data.

Regarding claims 2, 6 and 10, Reuning teaches wherein all the character strings contained in each of the plural data input forms are extracted (column 7, lines 10 – 17 "*character strings representative of electronic mail addresses* and saves those addresses in memory or disk storage. Presently, the electronic mailing protocol dictates that a filtering algorithm be used as follows: *extract any string of characters* that fits "space"_*@*.*_"space" where "*" is a wildcard variable representing any combination of characters").

Regarding claims 3, 7 and 11, Reuning teaches wherein a specific character string is selected out of the character strings contained in the plural data input forms (see column 7, lines 26 – 31).

Regarding claims 4, 8 and 12, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data input form retrieving system, comprising:

data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

a keyword adding computer unit that adds a keyword inputted by a user or automatically generated by natural language analysis to each of plural data input forms (see column 1, lines 33 – 36);

an extracting condition input computer unit that inputs a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms see column 2, lines 15 – 17);

and a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data input form by retrieving the keyword added by the keyword adding unit from the storage unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the extracting condition computer input unit (see column 2, lines 2 – 5).

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach a text file or program area as claimed.

Reuning teaches a text file containing the keywords extracted from the data input form is made up when the keywords have been extracted from each of the plural data input forms (see column 6, lines 16 – 26).

A storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 7, lines 10 – 13);

Ohmori teaches a recording medium including a program area (Abstract and column 8, lines 47 – 57: Examiner interprets "recordable area" as "program area").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's

system enable users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which contain operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all email addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning (column 3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or observe the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing data contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that may exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Ohmori's teaching of "program area" would have allowed Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a recording medium, recording apparatus and reproducing apparatus which expands a conventional MO disc audio recording and reproducing system so that the MO disc system can also be used to record and/or reproduce non-audio data.

Regarding claims 5 and 9, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data input form retrieving method, comprising:

a data input form retrieving program (column 2, lines 15 – 19 and column 3, lines 32 – 35);

extracting a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings (see column 3, lines 46 – 47 and column 4, lines 2 – 6);

inputting a keyword by a user (column 1, lines 35 – 36);

adding the keyword to each of the plural data input forms (column 1, lines 34 – 39);

inputting a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms (see column 6, lines 8 – 20).

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach text file or program area as claimed.

However, Reuning teaches making up a text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form (see column 5, lines 43 – 49);

A storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 7, lines 10 – 13); and

extracting the specific data input form by retrieving the extracted character string contained in the text file from the storage unit in accordance with the inputted extracting condition (see column 7, lines 10 – 17).

Ohmori teaches providing a recording medium including a program area (Abstract and column 8, lines 47 – 57: Examiner interprets "recordable area" as "program area").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Reuning's teaching of "text file containing the extracted character strings in association with a corresponding data input form" would have allowed Shimosuji's system enable users to search and "locates Internet site pages and web postings which contain operator specified keywords or Boolean combinations and then extracts all email addresses from those pages as well as linked pages" as suggested by Reuning (column 3, lines 10 - 15); The advantage is that the user is not required to conduct or

observe the cumbersome, tedious, frustrating and agonizingly slow task of reviewing data contained on Internet web sites, newsgroup postings and other data sources that may exist from time to time on the net (Reuning: column 3, lines 28 – 31).

Further, Ohmori's teaching of "program area" would have allowed Shimosuji and Reuning's system to provide a recording medium, recording apparatus and reproducing apparatus which expands a conventional MO disc audio recording and reproducing system so that the MO disc system can also be used to record and/or reproduce non-audio data.

Regarding claims 14 and 16, Shimotsuji teaches wherein the character string part is a noun part or a non-sentence part (see column 1, lines 55 – 66).

6. Claims 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimotsuji in view of Ohmori and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,438,682 issued to Ryohei Kumagai (hereinafter "Kumagai").

Regarding claim 13, Shimotsuji teaches a data input form retrieving system, comprising:

data input (column 2, lines 15 – 19) form retrieving program, the data input retrieving program including (column 3, lines 32 – 35):

a character string extracting computer unit that extracts a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings in accordance with extracting condition (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6).

A keyword add unit that adds a keyword inputted by a user to each of the plural data input forms (c0lumn 1, lines 34 – 39);

a storage unit that stores the text file and the keyword (column 1, lines 52 – 55); and

a data input form extracting computer unit that extracts the specific data input form by retrieving the character string extracted by the character string extracting unit from the storage unit in accordance with the extracting condition inputted by the extracting condition input computer unit (see column 2, lines 2 – 5).

Shimotsuji does not explicitly teach inputs a condition of extracting a specific data or program area as claimed.

Kumagai teaches an extracting condition, input computer unit that inputs a condition of extracting a specific data input from the plural data input forms (see column 3, lines 32 - 42).

Ohmori teaches a recording medium including a program area (Abstract and column 8, lines 47 – 57: Examiner interprets "recordable area" as "program area").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Kumagai's teaching of "extracting condition, input computer unit that inputs a condition of extracting a specific data input from the plural data input forms" would have

allowed Shimosuji's system solve the problems associated with image processing system of wide usage; and also provides a large quantity digital processing system of wide usage and performance as suggested by Kumagai (see Summary).

Further, Ohmori's teaching of "program area" would have allowed Shimosuji and Kumagai's system to provide a recording medium, recording apparatus and reproducing apparatus which expands a conventional MO disc audio recording and reproducing system so that the MO disc system can also be used to record and/or reproduce non-audio data.

Regarding claim 15, Shimotsuji teaches a computer implemented data input form retrieving method, comprising:

a data input form retrieving program (column 2, lines 15 – 19 and column 3, lines 32 – 35);

extracting a character string from each of plural data input forms containing character strings in accordance with the extracting condition (see column 1, lines 55 – 57 and column 4, lines 2 – 6);

inputting a keyword by a user (column 1, lines 35 – 36);

adding the keyword to each of the plural data input forms (column 1, lines 34 – 39);

storing the text file, the keyword, the extracting condition and the extracted character string (column 1, lines 52 – 55);

extracting the specific data input form by retrieving the extracted character string from the storage unit in accordance with the inputted extracting condition (see column 2, lines 15 – 17).

Shimotsuji does not inputting a condition of extracting a specific data as claimed.

However, Kumagai teaches inputting a condition of extracting a specific data input form from the plural data input forms (see column 3, lines 32 - 35); and

Ohmori teaches a recording medium including a program area (Abstract and column 8, lines 47 – 57: Examiner interprets "recordable area" as "program area").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine teaching of the cited references because Kumagai's teaching of "inputting a condition of extracting a specific data" would have allowed Shimosuji's system solve the problems associated with image processing system of wide usage; and also provides a large quantity digital processing system of wide usage and performance as suggested by Kumagai (see Summary).

Further, Ohmori's teaching of "program area" would have allowed Shimosuji and Kumagai's system to provide a recording medium, recording apparatus and reproducing apparatus which expands a conventional MO disc audio recording and reproducing system so that the MO disc system can also be used to record and/or reproduce non-audio data.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred I. Ehichioya whose telephone number is 571-272-4034. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Fred I. Ehichioya
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2162

April 3, 2006

MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER